

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, November 4, 2013. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Barry Cox, Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Christopher Schuchard, Lou Sotelo, and John Stauter. Absent: None.

Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, Building and Zoning Superintendent Amanda Schmidt, Fire Chief Gary Cook, Fire Captain Mike Dettman, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Vicky Meyer commented on the 17" high curb in front of The Emporium on West Third Street and presented photos. Manager Shumard explained that the engineers are reviewing the situation to reconstruct the curb for easier access and assure handicapped accessibility.

Alderman Cox made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda, as follows:

- A) 1) City Council Minutes of October 21, 2013  
2) Special City Council Minutes of October 28, 2013
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$1,039,752.85
- C) **Resolution No. R2013-11-23** providing for the abatement of general real property taxes in the amount of \$461,787.50 for General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2010A (Recovery Zone Facility Bonds)
- D) **Resolution No. R2013-11-24** providing for the abatement of certain taxes levied against real property in the amount of \$208,800.00 for General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Sales Tax Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2010C-Lynn Boulevard and Oak Grove Roadway Construction project
- E) **Resolution No. R2013-11-25** providing for the abatement of general real property taxes in the amount of \$358,910.00 for Taxable General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2010D (Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds – Direct Payment)
- F) **Resolution No. R2013-11-26** providing for the abatement of certain taxes levied against real property in the amount of \$167,212.50 for General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) Series 2005-Street Program
- G) **Resolution No. R2013-11-27** providing for the abatement of general real property taxes in the amount of \$3,397,025.00 for General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2012
- H) **Resolution No. R2013-11-28** providing for the abatement of certain taxes levied against real property in the amount of \$43,000.00 for the Special Services Area Unlimited Tax Bonds, Series 1995 – Tori Pines

- I) Refer to Plan Commission a Petition for Alley vacation from RJ Chevrolet, Inc. at 1824 Locust Street
- J) **Resolution No. R2013-11-29** to close streets for Seasonal Sights and Sounds festivities on December 6, 2013
- K) Refer to Plan Commission a Petition to encroach onto right of way in the 300 block of Light Street from John Brady
- L) Change Order #12 for City Hall remodeling project in the amount of \$16,158.95
- M) Partial Payment Request for City Hall remodeling project from Sjostrom & Sons in the amount of \$240,708.56

The motion was seconded by Alderman Elston. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Mayor Lee recognized Chief Cook for the Fire Department promotion. Chief Cook introduced James Alumbaugh who is being promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. His wife, Laurie pinned on his new badge.

Alderman Elston made a motion to pass the proclamation declaring November 30, 2013 as "Small Business Saturday" in the Sauk Valley region; seconded by Alderman Sotelo. Voting: Ayes – Alderman Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried. Mayor Lee read the proclamation into the record. Mayor Lee recognized Janna Groharing from Sterling Main Street. Groharing encourages everyone to support small businesses in our area.

Alderman Sotelo made a motion to approve the Agreement for Hearing Services for a period of one year with automatic renewals for successive one-year terms at a rate of \$650 per session; seconded by Alderman Elston. Chief Potthoff and Superintendent Schmidt were happy with the system because it expedites court cases and frees up time at the circuit court. Chief Potthoff noted that Judge Slavin encourages quick payments. Voting: Ayes - Alderman Cox, Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Alderman Sotelo made a motion to authorize the City Manager to execute the Donation Agreement with Stanley-National; seconded by Alderman Martin. Manager Shumard indicated the local property manager reported few maintenance issues. The primary concern is to keep the fire suppression system working along with the heating system. There are a couple minor roof leaks. The City will own the property when the "No Further Remediation" (NFR) letter is received from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). Until the property becomes the City's, Stanley will maintain security. Stanley is liable for remediation and can begin removal when a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) is submitted and approved by IEPA. If the City removes buildings after remediation is complete, we are responsible for any contaminants under the building. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Sotelo, and Stauter. Nays – Alderman Cox. Motion carried.

Alderman Stauter disagreed with WSDR's report that the number of Trick or Treaters was down this year because his block was swamped with kids.

Mayor Lee wished the United States Marine Corps a happy birthday and especially to our City Attorney, Ron Coplan, a former marine.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Marie Rombouts  
City Clerk